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Wet-on-Dry Watercolour



You need:

- STOCKMAR paints in the colours: lemon yellow, golden yellow, carmine red, ultramarine, Prussian blue, blue-green, yellow-green
- a painting board
- a No. 18 or 22 flat paintbrush
- a No. 4 or 10 round paintbrush
- watercolour paper ca. DIN A3
- containers for mixing paints
- a water jar, cloths, sponge, strips of paper tape
- a soft pencil, e.g. 2B

If you have the three STOCKMAR Colour-Circle Paints or STOCKMAR carmine red, lemon yellow and ultramarine, you can mix golden yellow, blue-green and yellow-green yourself: Golden yellow = lemon yellow + a small amount of carmine red; Green = lemon yellow + ultramarine; Yellow-green = lemon yellow + a small amount of ultramarine.

The wet-on-dry technique is especially effective for painting florals. It consists of two work steps. First, the wet-in-wet technique is used for the background and a rough draft. After drying, you can give the individual flowers, stems and leaves form and contours by painting them over. By giving emphasis only to the individual flowers and stems in this way, a sense of perspective and dimension is created.

Be sure that the first light layer of paint dries completely so that the colours that are painted over in the second step don't get soaked up or mixed.

1- Mix the paints as described in Chapter 2 / "Mixing STOCKMAR Paints". For the first step you need a very pale Prussian blue, golden yellow, lemon yellow and green (see also the TIP we give on this page).

2- Span the watercolour paper on the painting board. How this is done is described in Chapter 2 / "How to Span. Single Sheets". The front of the



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paper should be damp and shiny so that the spots of paint "blossom" (diagr. 1).

3- Dip your flat brush into the pale Prussian blue and quickly paint over the whole sheet. Then dip your No. 10 round brush into the ultramarine, golden yellow and lemon yellow (BE SURE to wash out your brush in clear water before using a new colour!) and paint the blossoms of the flowers by dripping paint onto the paper and letting it run. Then use the green that you've mixed to suggest the stems (diagr. 1).

4- Before you continue painting, this first layer has to be completely dry. That can take quite a

You don't need much paint for the flowers. Mix the paint in small amounts on a palette. Instead of a palette you can use a piece of white cardboard or a white plate. Dip your brush in a little paint, mix with a few drops of water, wash out your brush, dip your brush into the second colour, and mix with the first. With time you'll get a feeling for how much water and paint you need to mix to achieve the desired colour tone.



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Sketch the blossom of the flower first with a soft pencil. Paint the flowers with four or five leaves, with round and spear-shaped petals, try to paint a side view, etc. The flowers will appear particularly alive if you dab on a second colour, paint the petals in slightly varying shades of colour or paint over the blossoms once dry.

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while. Use this time to practise how to create floral shapes with your paintbrush and colours. The aim is not to paint very exact flowers but to express their typical qualities. You can see examples on this page (diagr. 3).

5- Finish creating your floral arrangement by working out the details of the individual flowers with your No. 4 brush. You might want to sketch this lightly first with a pencil. Use bright colours for this; paint over the yellow tones e.g. with red or orange, the ultramarine with Prussian blue or carmine red. Emphasize the middle of the flower by adding a dab of another colour. You can make the floral stems and leaves obvious with blue-green. After drying, the blossoms and leaves can be painted over again if you want to particularly accentuate them (diagr. 2).